August 24, 1953

Dr. Lou S. Baron
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Washington 12, D.C.

Dear Lou:

I found your letter of July 30 upon returning from a trip to the SAB meetings.

Thanks for the information on the E. coli cultures: we're glad to have them. There was no letter with them-- you can imagine how mystifying they were.

Larry Weed did arrange to have sent the cultures we wanted from him. Unfortunately, we still havenot duplicated his results. I have no idea what's wrong.

Concerning the two E. coli cultures which react with Salmonella IX-- do you have any further information on their cultural or serological behavior. Do they have XII? Do they have recognizable H antigens?

Can I ask one more question? In your note in Proc Soc on the transductions with Vi phage, there's a linear graph relating number of transductions to amount of phage. The latter is, however, on a logarithmic scale. Do you attach any special significance to this relationship?

We have lately looked over the paratyphi B typing phages for transducing activity. The B.A.C.R. typing phage worked very much like PLT22, but has, unfortunately a much narrower host range, though not confined to paratyphi B. This observation is not likely to be of much use. Have you tried any of the experiments we discussed anent selection for Vi+, e.g., some of the selective agglutination possibilities? C.C. Spicer has had some favorable results in reconstruction experiments in the separation of various somatic antigen types by such methods.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg